

REPORT

Of the Committee on the Judiciary upon the subject of admitting aliens to the right of citizenship who resided within the United States one year preceding the declaration of the late war with Great Britain.

MARCH 13, 1822.

Committed to a committee of the whole House on the state of the Union.

DECEMBER 12, 1822.

Reprinted by order of the House of Representatives.

The Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred a resolution, of the 14th February, instructing them to inquire into the expediency of permitting aliens, who resided within the limits and jurisdiction of the United States one year immediately preceding the declaration of the late war between the United States and Great Britain, and who have continued to reside within the same, to become citizens, without a compliance with the first condition specified in the first section of the act, entitled "An act to establish an uniform rule of naturalization," approved April 14, 1802,

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That the condition proposed to be partially dispensed with by the resolution, is that which requires an alien to make a declaration of his intention, on oath or affirmation, three years before the time of applying to be admitted to become a citizen of the United States. The condition is, in the opinion of the committee, a very reasonable one, and one with which it is easy to comply in every case where the intention really exists. To dispense with it is to commit a breach in the established system, and to make residence, without declared intention to become a citizen, sufficient to entitle a person to admission. This does not seem to the Committee to be necessary or expedient, and they therefore offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

